



Psychology 6500 Psychopharmacology and Drugs of Abuse
Fall, 2018 Syllabus
Catherine Deering, Ph.D., ABPP

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Office Hours: Tuesdays 12:30-1:30 PM; 3:30-4:30 PM; Wednesdays 1:30-3:30 PM (online); Thursdays 12:30 PM- 1:30 PM; 3:30-4:30 PM; and by appointment

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PSYC 6500, Psychopharmacology and Drugs of Abuse (3-0-3) This course will review theories and models from neuroscience and behavioral pharmacology including but not limited to major psychotropic medications and the neurological processes by which they operate, common drugs of abuse, the addiction process, and treatment of substance misuse within a culturally sensitive framework. Pre-requisite: PSYC 5350 Advanced Psychopathology and Diagnosis and admission to M.S. program in Clinical Psychology.

Class Times: Thurs. 11:15 AM-12:30 PM, T118.

Textbooks:

Preston, J.D., O'Neal, J.H. & Talaga, M.C. (2017). *Handbook of clinical psychopharmacology for therapists*. 8th Ed. Oakland, CA: New Harbinger Publications, Inc.

Fisher, G.L. & Harrison, T.C. (2018). *Substance abuse: Information for school counselors, social workers, therapists, and counselors*. 6th Ed. NY: Pearson.

Learning Outcomes: The following are the mission statement and the 5 learning outcomes for the M.S. Program in Clinical Psychology.

The Mission of the Masters program in Clinical Psychology is to prepare students to be competent, ethical practitioners of psychological services in the community. Students will develop skills in psychological assessment, and in a variety of therapeutic modalities, including individual, family, couples, and group therapy. Students will be able to apply knowledge from various theoretical frameworks (e.g., cognitive, behavioral, psychodynamic, humanistic) to intervene effectively with a wide variety of psychological problems. The program emphasizes learning to consider the uniqueness of each individual and the influence of culture and ethnicity when providing services to people from diverse backgrounds. Students will be expected to develop self-awareness, empathy, and compassion for the people struggling with mental health problems. This program will prepare graduates to work in a broad range of mental health settings. The program will also prepare students who wish to pursue doctoral training in clinical or counseling psychology. Graduates of this program will be able to:

- use critical thinking skills to assess mental health and implement effective interventions using a variety of therapeutic modalities and theoretical approaches (e.g., cognitive, behavioral, psychodynamic, humanistic).
- understand and apply ethical standards to the provision of psychological services in the community.
- demonstrate knowledge and skills to intervene effectively with individuals from varying cultural backgrounds.
- interpret and apply research methods and statistical techniques to advance the study and practice of clinical psychology.
- use interpersonal and written communication effectively and professionally.

Course Objectives:

1. Discuss the role of psychopharmacology in the treatment of psychological disorders, including awareness of the types and categories of psychotropic medications, indications, therapeutic effects, and typical side effects.
2. Evaluate the role of the counselor in collaboration and psychoeducation with health care professionals, family, and social networks in the management of pharmacological treatment.
3. Discuss cultural and diversity considerations for the use of psychotropic medications, including potential for misuse (e.g., over prescription, under prescription, inappropriate use) for vulnerable and minority populations, and explore ways to advocate for clients while collaborating with prescribers.
4. Review and summarize current scientific understanding regarding the etiology and treatment of addictions including empirically-supported treatment approaches, medications, and 12 step models.
5. Consider the diverse influences of (but not limited to) gender, ethnicity, culture, sexuality, and social class in relation to addictions and analyze ethical issues in addiction treatment.

Course Requirements:

1. Homework Assignments (40% of grade)
2. Midterm Exam (25% of grade)
3. Final Exam (25% of grade)
4. Class Participation (10% of grade)

Homework Assignments: A series of six homework assignments will be due throughout the semester. These will involve out of class activities and writing/reflections that will complement the class material in this hybrid course. The assignments are designed to facilitate your application and synthesis of the theories and concepts in the course.

Midterm Exam: The midterm exam will cover the first set of material on substance abuse and its treatment. It will be short answer/essay. The test will cover both class material and readings.

Final Exam: There will be a cumulative final exam in this course. The exam will be multiple choice and short answer. The material will cover the readings, as well as components of the class discussions and presentations.

Class Participation: In a graduate course, you are expected to be an active participant in every class discussion. The quality of the discussion is dependent on each student reading all assigned materials and coming to class ready to comment on what you have read. Of course, if you are absent you cannot participate. Students will be allowed one unexcused absence in this course. After that, each absence will result in a letter grade deduction in the class participation grade (e.g., one absence= 90% maximum grade; two absences= 80% maximum grade, etc.). Lateness or leaving early are disruptive to the class and detract from participation. Each instance of lateness or leaving early will result in a 5 point deduction from the class participation grade. In addition, students will be evaluated on the quality of their participation. This part of the grade is more subjective, and based on my analysis of how substantive your comments are and whether or not your comments reflect thorough understanding and analysis of the readings. Opinions are important and welcomed, but they are not sufficient to earn a strong grade in class participation. Evaluation, application, and critical thinking about the readings are the most important indicators of high quality class participation. Class attendance rates set the limits on the maximum class participation grades. After those grades are determined, additional points will be deducted based on the quality of your class participation. In order to be excused from class, you must contact me before class and provide written documentation that is evidence of a compelling emergency.

Course Policies: Students must abide by policies in the Clayton State University Student Handbook <http://www.clayton.edu/Portals/46/docs/student-handbook.pdf> and <http://www.clayton.edu/Portals/5/BasicUndergraduateStudentResponsibilities.pdf>.

USE OF LAPTOP COMPUTERS DURING THIS CLASS (EVEN TO TAKE NOTES) IS NOT ALLOWED unless the student has documentation from the Disability Services Office indicating the need.

USE OF CELL PHONES AND TEXTING DURING CLASS IS NOT ALLOWED. Please turn your phone to vibrate.

Attendance: Attendance is necessary in order to maintain a good grade in this course. Students are responsible for all material presented in class, which includes material that is not found in the textbook. The professor cannot supply notes to students who miss class. If you must miss a class, you are responsible for asking another student to fill you in on what occurred in class.

Disruption of the Learning Environment: CSU policies for disruptive student behavior may be found at <http://www.clayton.edu/Portals/5/DisruptiveClassroomBehavior.pdf>

Weapons on Campus: Clayton State University is committed to providing a safe environment for our students, faculty, staff, and visitors. Information on laws and policies regulating weapons on campus are available at <http://www.clayton.edu/public-safety/Safety-Security/Weapons>

Computer Skill Prerequisites: Students must be able to use all aspects of GeorgiaVIEW, the Windows™ operating system; and send and receive e-mail using Outlook™ .

Laptop Computer Access: Each CSU student is required to have ready access throughout the semester to a notebook computer that meets faculty-approved hardware and software requirements for the student's academic program. See <http://www.clayton.edu/hub/itpchoice/notebookcomputerpolicy> Students will not be using laptop computers in the classroom for this course.

Mid-term Progress Report: The mid-term grade in this course reflects approximately 35% of the entire course grade. Based on this grade, students may choose to withdraw from the course and receive a grade of "W." Students pursuing this option must fill out an official withdrawal form, available in the Office of the Registrar. The last day to withdraw without academic accountability is Friday, October 5, 2018.

Cheating: Students are expected to abide by the policies in the CCSU college catalog. Students are to do their own work unless an assignment is clearly designated as a group and/or collaborative activity. Cheating on a test or assignment will result in a grade of zero for the assignment, which may result in a failing grade for the course. Any type of activity that is considered dishonest by reasonable standards may constitute academic misconduct. The most common forms of academic misconduct are cheating and plagiarism. All instances of academic dishonesty will result in a grade of zero for the work involved and NO CELL PHONES ARE TO BE USED DURING TESTS: this will be considered cheating will be reported to the Office of Student Life/Judicial Affairs. Judicial procedures: <http://adminservices.clayton.edu/judicial/>

Individuals with disabilities who need to request accommodations should contact the Disability Services Coordinator, Student Center 225, 770-961-3719, disabilityservices@mail.clayton.edu.